



# City Update

News and Information for City of Saint Paul Employees

January 29, 1999

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### Mayor

Norm Coleman

### Council Members

Jerry Blakey

Christopher Coleman

Michael Harris

Jay Benanav

Jim Reiter

Dan Bostrom

Kathy Lantry

## City employees have "shadows" for a day



On Thursday, January 21, students from Humboldt High School in Saint Paul spent a day shadowing City employees. The Mayor's office, Public Works, City Attorney Office, Citizen Service Office, Housing Inspection Department, and

Police Department participated in the event. Mayor Norm Coleman is pictured with his "shadow," Judy Lee. The objective of this project is to give high school students a chance to learn about different career options. This program is a part of the Groundhog Day Job Shadow program which is sponsored by Junior Achievement and a number of other organizations.



## Titanic night for City/County employees

Mayor Coleman, Councilmember Chris Coleman, Chair of the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners Rafael Ortega and the Employee Services Committee invite you to attend a City/County employee night at the Titanic Exhibition at Saint Paul's Union Depot, 214 East 4th Street, Wednesday, February 24th, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Tickets will be \$12 for adults and \$4.50 for children ages 5-12, (5 years of age and under free). Tickets will go on sale Wednesday, January 27, in room 170 City Hall. Contact Michelle VanHeel, 266-8502, for more information.

## Saint Paul celebrates 150 years throughout 1999

Lamont Cranston kicks off the first of 150 Pioneer Parties in celebration of the City of Saint Paul's 150th birthday. The celebration begins at the Landmark Center, 4:30 p.m., Saturday, January 30th, following the Grande Day Parade. Domino's Pizza and Coca-Cola provide free slices of pizza and soda while Kemp's will be handing out samples of "Zero Visibility", the official ice cream of the Saint Paul Winter Carnival. Dates and locations of future Pioneer Parties will be announced on the City website, front page of the Pioneer Press Express section, and on KS95, and KSTP AM 1500.

*Saint Paul*  
Celebrating 150 Years



## Spotlight on Wellness

### Bill Tschida

Engineering Technician  
Supervisor  
Water Utility  
27 years of service with the City



Leda Murphy,  
Risk Management

This past fall, Bill enrolled in the Partners for Fitness program, which was developed by LifeTime Fitness, HealthPartners, and the City to encourage employees to improve their health.

When asked why he exercises, Bill states: "It isn't for medical reasons. I exercise because it is critical to my sense of well-being. It gives me that mind/body connection that I've learned I need."

Bill's advice: "For me, exercise has to become routine, a normal part of my day. For that to happen, it has to first be convenient. If it's not both, I'll never keep it up." He remembers 25 years ago when he had no problem exercising. "It was simply something I did every day, and it was easy." However, as the years accumulated and "as inertia set in," it became more difficult for him to exercise for any extended period because it wasn't part of his routine.

"Now, I'm back to the basics," he says. "Last spring through fall my wife and I rode our bikes and dug in the garden together quite often. During the winter, she likes playing USAV volleyball, and I prefer sweatin' and gruntin' at the gym."

When asked why he joined the Partners for Fitness program, Bill said: "It's really convenient. I am able to fold my exercise routine into the work day. Plus, LifeTime Fitness has first-class equipment; its "What a Difference" orientation program and personal trainers are really good, especially Brigid."

Bill's goals are to build muscle and lose body fat. At last check he had lost 20 pounds and 3 inches at his waist in the last year, most of it because of his new exercise regimen. "I'm actually looking forward to buying new clothes because for the first time in 15 years, they'll be smaller instead of larger."

And with a wink, he added: "Plus, I like not getting in my way when I bend over."

For further information about LifeTime Fitness, please call 651-227-7777. For more information about other corporate membership discounts at local health clubs, please call Risk Management at 651-266-8880.

## Unclaimed cars towed during snow emergencies disposed in public auctions

The City of Saint Paul's policy is to declare a Snow Emergency after three inches or more of snowfall or after an accumulation of three inches over several days. The towing actions imposed by the snow emergencies have resulted in a significant number of cars in the Police Impound Lot.

The owner of a towed car should receive notification within two days. If the car has not been claimed within fifteen days of notification, it will be disposed of via public auction. More information on the public auctions are available on the City of Saint Paul police web site @ [www.stpaul.gov/police](http://www.stpaul.gov/police).

The impound lot is located at 830 Barge Channel Road, 651-603-6895. The fine for a "snow tag" is \$40. Storage fees include \$117.70 cash or \$120.70 check. There is an additional \$12 fee per day of storage. There are also additional towing fees assessed to the owner.

Snow emergency information is available on the city website @ [www.stpaul.gov](http://www.stpaul.gov), by calling 266-PLOW, or at 170 City Hall.



## Saint Paul celebrates "Black History Month"

"Black History Month", formally "Negro History Week", is a time to clear up centuries of misinformation about Africa and its inhabitants and also to celebrate diversity in African history. Carter G. Woodson, the founder, was concerned about the effect falsified history was having on the self-esteem of his people. In 1926, he founded "Negro History Week" with the purpose to hand down information about Africans that had been altered, dismissed or ignored. "Negro History Week" was renamed "Black History Month" allowing for more time to celebrate diversity in history of the culture.

Saint Paul is doing its part to join in the celebration of Black History Month. The following events are scheduled to take place in the basement of City Hall. Signs will be posted for each event throughout City Hall.

**Fri., February 5, 11:45 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

**Proclamation - Mayor Norm Coleman**

**Overview of Black History - Mahmoud El Kati**

**Performance by the Harvest Prep School**

**Fri., February 12, 11:45 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

**Storytelling by Brenda Bell Brown and Toni Carter**

**Fri., February 19, 12 p.m. - 1 p.m.**

**Music featuring Gary Hines,**

**Director of "The Sounds of Blackness."**

**Fri., February 26, 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.**

**Film and Vendors**

**Food by Big Daddy's Restaurant**

## City of Saint Paul plans to raise parking rates

Parking at a meter may not be the best solution come this spring. In accordance with Mayor Norm Coleman's 1999 City budget, the City is currently taking measures to raise parking meter rates in Saint Paul. The plan is to raise each meter 25 cents an hour. For example, a meter with the current rate of 25 cents would change to 50 cents an hour and a meter with an \$1 an hour rate would change to \$1.25 an hour. It is also planned to upgrade the city's 600 old-style mechanical meters with digital meters by the end of January. According to Al Shetka, Public Works traffic engineer, "This process should be complete within the next couple weeks." The meter-rate raise is expected to take effect sometime mid-March. "We are still waiting for Council to approve the final steps of this process. If this happens, it will take 30 more days for the process to begin," Shetka said.

The goal of this rate-raising process is to discourage downtown workers from tying up on-street parking and to provide meters for people who come downtown for an hour or two. There has not been a meter rate increase in over fifteen years. This increase is needed to cover costs that have gone up since the last increase in the '80s.

## Employee Spotlight

Mike Zipko recently took over the position of Communications Director in the Mayor's office. In his new position Mike will work with City departments on keeping City



employees, the community, as well as the country updated as to what is happening in the City of Saint Paul. "I am very excited about my new position; there are a lot of things happening in Saint Paul that people are not aware of," he said. "Under the mayor's leadership Saint Paul has undergone numerous changes. I want to promote these changes and let people know Saint Paul is a great place to live." Mike previously worked with Governor-elect Jesse Ventura and his media transition to the Governor's office. He also worked on Mayor Norm Coleman's gubernatorial campaign and in Governor Arne Carlson's office. Mike is not completely new to the City. He did work as a public service manager in Water Utility from 1994 to 1995.

## On the Calendar

**Jan. 29 - Feb. 7,** Saint Paul Winter Carnival. No Time For Cold Feet. Over 100 events including parades, cultural celebrations, ice and snow sculpting, and a giant snow slide. For more information call 612-223-4710 or view the web site at [www.winter-carnival.com](http://www.winter-carnival.com).





## Skyway YMCA offers workout deal

The YMCA of Greater Saint Paul and YMCA of Metropolitan Minneapolis are currently offering \$75 off the joiner fee on all new adult and family memberships. This offer is good at all seventeen

Twin City YMCA locations and runs through January 30, 1999. The YMCA in downtown Saint Paul is located in Galtier Plaza at the corners of Sixth and Sibley. The Skyway YMCA offers five floors of fitness equipment and exceptional programming. Cybex, Nautilus, free weights, racquetball courts, swimming pools, gyms and cardiovascular exercise machines are available. An extensive variety of fitness classes along with Tai Chi Chih, Yoga and flexibility are some of their more popular class offerings. For more information, call the Skyway YMCA, 651-292-4143 or dial 375-YMCA for the YMCA location nearest you.

## City Update

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15 W. Kellogg Blvd.  
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266-8680, fax 266-8689

*City Update* is a bi-weekly newsletter for City employees published by the Citizen Service Office of the City of Saint Paul. Submission deadline is noon on Wednesday, one week before payday. Call 266-8680 for more information.

## Free ride to the Winter Carnival

Metro Transit is offering free transportation to the Winter Carnival on specific days. On January 30, the day of the Grande Day Parade, and February 6, the day of the Torchlight Parade, riders may ride free all day by simply showing their Winter Carnival button to the driver as they board. This deal is only valid on these two days. Also, on February 4, riders age 65 or older may ride free between 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., the Carnival's Senior Day by showing proof of senior status and their Winter Carnival button.

## 150 Trivia

Each week a trivia question about the history of Saint Paul will appear in the Update with answers appearing in the following issue. This issue's trivia question is:

Name three pop songs which refer to Saint Paul in their lyrics?

## Police Officer's Home destroyed by fire

The home of Saint Paul police officers Heidi and Michael Hinzman was destroyed by fire January 13, 1999. The property was a total loss. The family's two pet dogs, Renko and Casey, were also lost in the tragedy. Renko was a retired member of the Saint Paul Police K-9 unit. To aid the Heinzmans in their time of need, a fire fund has been established. Contributions may be sent to The Heinzman Fire Fund c/o Liberty State Bank, P.O. Box 64075, Saint Paul, MN. 55164-9832. The account number is 63025-1.

## Job Openings as of January 29, 1999

Application Deadline	Title	Bi-weekly or Hourly Salary Rate	Exam Date
02/01/99	City Building Official	\$2440.03	TBN
02/08/99	Electrician	\$25.17	02/16/99
02/01/99	Gardener	\$16.61 per hr	02/22/99
Open	House Custodian I ( <b>part-time</b> )	\$7.00 per hr	TBN
02/08/99	LIEP Help Desk Coordinator ( <b>prom</b> )	\$1210.90	02/26/99
02/11/99	Operating Engineer	\$19.01 per hr	02/24/99
Open	Ticket Sellers - RiverCentre ( <b>part-time</b> )	\$5.50 per hr (in training)	TBN

**\*\*This is a walk-in-examination. Do not submit a job application before the test.**

Note: Call or visit the Office of Human Resources to receive the official job announcement for these positions. Location: 400 City Hall Annex. Phone: (651) 266-6500 (TTY/TDD (651) 266-6501). For jobs announced after January 25, please call our 24-hour job line, (651) 266-6502.